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### Georgia Library Association - Academic Library Division

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*People, Libraries  
and Agencies* **IN THE NEWS**

## Georgia Library Association Academic Library Division

### Academic Paper Competition

Every year the Georgia Library Association's (GLA) Academic Library Division (ALD) sponsors an academic papers competition to encourage scholarly research and writing by academic librarians and library school students on topics about libraries and librarianship. All papers submitted to this competition are evaluated via a double blind review by a panel of academic librarians from different institutions across the state. A detailed scoring rubric focuses the review on the following criteria: purpose, content, organization, scholarship, and references. Using the rubric ensures impartiality and provides a basis for valuable feedback to the competition participants. Traditionally, the ALD research paper competition culminates with paper presentations at the COMO conference.

This year's three top scoring papers from the competition were presented at COMO:



Mandy Mastrovita, Andrea Stanfield, Mary Ann Cullen,  
Donnie Summerlin, Amy Stalker, and Karen Viars

"Utilizing Student Workers at the Digital Library of Georgia," by Mandy Mastrovita and Donnie Summerlin (winning paper); "A Mobile Solution to Information Literacy Assessment," by Karen Viars, Mary Ann Cullen, and Amy Stalker; and "Defining Ourselves: What Makes a Librarian Professional?," by Andrea Stanfield.



Mandy Mastrovita and Donnie Summerlin  
ALD Paper Competition Winners

### Academic Library Division at COMO 2016

In addition to the paper presentation, ALD sponsored two other COMO sessions that continued the theme to encourage academic librarians to research and write. One session was a pre-conference workshop and the other was a panel by a group of librarians involved in publishing.

The workshop "Librarians in Print: A Scholarly Approach to Library Research, Writing, and Publishing" was led by Sarah Steiner, a 2011 *Library Journal* Mover and Shaker. The workshop encouraged participants to bring an idea for a scholarly publication and then covered topics such as getting started, selecting

a research methodology, finding a publisher, and handling rejection from editors.

In a panel moderated by outgoing ALD chair Rebecca Rose, Camille McCutcheon, Cheryl Stiles, and Virginia Feher fielded questions about different aspects of scholarly writing and publishing. All panelists have extensive experience working and writing for academic journals on state and national level. Camille McCutcheon is a member of the editorial boards of *The Southeastern Librarian*, *The Journal of Popular Culture*, and *The Journal of American Culture* and is book review editor for the *Journal of American Culture*; Virginia Feher is the current editor of *Georgia Library Quarterly* and reviewer for *College and Undergraduate Libraries*; Cheryl Stiles is piloting a one-year professional writing group for Kennesaw State University librarians. The panel discussed helpful strategies to get published, writing software and tools, communication with journal editors, and navigation of the peer review process.



Camille McCutcheon, Cheryl Stiles, Virginia Feher, and Rebecca Rose

### 2016 ALD Election Results

**Incoming ALD Chair:** Sofia Slutskey, Metadata Strategist, Georgia Institute of Technology

**Vice-Chair/Chair Elect:** Jennifer Townes, Scholarly Communication Librarian, Georgia College

**Secretary:** Angela Dixon, Reference Services Librarian, University of North Georgia

**ACRL Chapters Council Representative\*:** Kimberly Boyd, Research and Instruction Librarian, Brenau University (\* three year term)